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July 23, 2003

Attorney Docket No.: 00167-362002

## Mail Stop Patent Application

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Presented for filing is a new continuation patent application of:

Applicant: ROD BERUBE, PAUL (ALEC) TORRIE, JOHN LIPCHITZ, AND  
STEVEN W. EK

Title: TISSUE FASTENER

The prior application is assigned of record to Smith & Nephew, Inc.,  
a Delaware corporation, by virtue of an assignment submitted to the Patent and  
Trademark Office and recorded on January 25, 2000 at 010549/0740.

Enclosed are the following papers, including those required to receive a filing date  
under 37 CFR §1.53(b):

	<u>Pages</u>
Specification	15, including the cover sheet
Claims	8
Abstract	1
Declaration	2
Drawing(s)	5

### Enclosures:

- Copy of Combined Declaration and Power of Attorney, 1/25/2000, which was filed in the parent application. Please enter this in this application.
- Form PTO-1449 and Form PTO-892, 9 pages, listing documents cited in the parent application(s). Please confirm that these have been considered in this application by returning a copy of the Forms PTO-1449 and PTO-892 with the examiner's initials.
- Preliminary amendment, 8 pages.
- Postcard.

This application is a continuation (and claims the benefit of priority under 35 USC 120) of U.S. application serial no. 09/490,525, filed January 25, 2000. The disclosure of the prior application is considered part of (and is incorporated by reference in) the disclosure of this application.



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Basic filing fee	\$750
Total claims in excess of 20 times \$18	\$252
Independent claims in excess of 3 times \$84	\$252
Fee for multiple dependent claims	\$0
Total filing fee:	\$1254

A check for the filing fee is enclosed. Please apply any other required fees or any credits to deposit account 06-1050, referencing the attorney docket number shown above.

If this application is found to be incomplete, or if a telephone conference would otherwise be helpful, please call the undersigned at (202) 783-5070.

Kindly acknowledge receipt of this application by returning the enclosed postcard.

Please direct all correspondence to the following:

26171

PTO Customer Number

Respectfully submitted,



John F. Hayden

Reg. No. 37,640

Enclosures

JFH/tnl

40166125.doc